

The Wren



**Summer 2024
Edition**

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Headteacher Letter:

Joshua Gershwin-Williams
Headteacher



Dear Wren Spinney School Community,

As we reach the end of another enriching year at Wren Spinney School, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we've shared and to express our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support and collaboration.

This year has been filled with remarkable achievements and cherished memories. Our students have thrived, showcasing their unique talents and reaching new milestones. Each student has shone brightly, embodying the spirit of resilience and determination that makes our school community so special.

We are particularly proud to share that Wren Spinney School has been recognised with several prestigious awards this year. Achieving the Ofsted Outstanding rating is a testament to the exceptional dedication of our staff, the hard work of our students, and the continuous support from you, our parents and carers. Additionally, we have been honoured with the Healthy Schools Bronze Award, the SMSC Gold Quality Mark, the RRSA Bronze Award, Wellbeing Award, and the Investors in People accreditation. These accolades reflect our commitment to fostering a holistic, inclusive, and supportive environment for every member of our school community.



Your involvement has been invaluable, whether by participating in school events, supporting learning at home, or simply being there to encourage and uplift. Your partnership has made a profound impact, and we are deeply grateful for your dedication and trust.

As we look ahead to the new year, we are excited about the opportunities and experiences that await. Our commitment to providing a nurturing, inclusive, and stimulating environment remains steadfast. Together, we will continue to empower our students to reach their full potential and to celebrate their unique abilities.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Wren Spinney family. We wish you a joyful and restful holiday season, filled with warmth and happiness. We look forward to welcoming you back in September, ready to embark on another chapter of growth and success.



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Sensory Provision Summer Update:

Sara Lambert
Assistant Headteacher



The Sensory Provision have had a busy Summer term enjoying our Sand and Seaside theme.

Swifts have been very creative making sea creatures for their display and enjoyed listening to summer songs with the music man. Swifts have enjoyed spending time outside on the swing and roundabout and of course not forgetting Kids day out at Wicksteed park.



Hérons class have been on a journey to the bottom of the Ocean in their Sensory story, encountering slimy seaweed, jiggly jelly fish and a scary shark!



Flamingos have been exploring different ways of painting beach themed items, mixing paint with sand, painting with sponges, brushes and bubble wrap.

Falcons have been having a great time in sensory cooking, making ice cream flavored scones, tasting vanilla, chocolate chips and Strawberries, with Strawberries and chocolate being a clear favourite. Falcons have also loved getting messy in exploratory play sessions.



Throughout the provision we have been working on travel training, developing our awareness and making our way around the school environment with increasing independence. We had great fun Country dancing for Mayday celebrations, found new ways to play, and all loved the Bubble workshop and the visit from the donkeys in June.

We would like to wish everyone a happy summer break and we look forward to our new adventures next academic year.



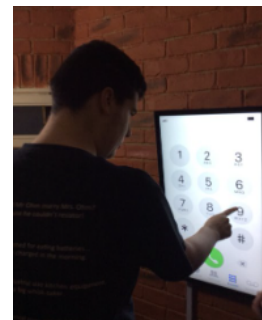


Collaborative Provision Summer Update:

Toby Widdicombe
Assistant Headteacher

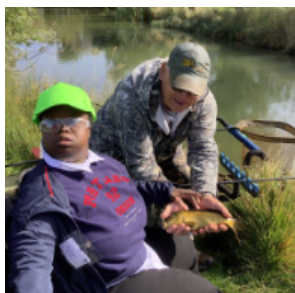


This Summer term our Collaborative classes have been working very hard on their independence skills while being off site on educational visits. We have been out Horse Riding, swimming, shopping, Travel Training, Stanwick Lakes, Wicksteed Park, using public buses, Teamwork Trust, Cash and Carry tuck shop shopping, Ise Brook Animal Care, trout fishing, softball and table cricket, 10 pin bowling and Hazard Alley.



Our students have been working on road safety and crossing the road, shopping with a list for cooking lunch on Fridays and re-stocking the tuck shops, turn taking with team games such as cricket and bowling, danger awareness at Hazard Alley.

There has been so much progress made across the provision and we are all so proud of the efforts our students put in each day.



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Structured Provision Summer Update:

Mihaela Shoebridge
Assistant Headteacher



This has been an amazing summer term with lots to celebrate, from our Outstanding Ofsted to our students achieving their ASDAN qualifications with 100% achievement rate!

The students in the structured department have had a busy term going to different places within the community such as the shops, and parks. Some of the students attended the Wicksteed park events and some of them enjoyed a visit from 2 donkeys, experiencing giant bubbles in the playground and enjoyed music sessions with Paul, the music man and a very well received disco in the hall!

Some of our students have accessed horse riding and swimming. The OT and Salt have supported all of our students with their communication and sensory regulation needs. The sensory swing has been well received by most of our students. TAC PAC sessions have opened new opportunities for communication and interactions with objects or with peers.



Our free play sessions focused on exploring and engaging with a variety of objects and build our knowledge of the world and communication skills through these experiences. Pointing, triangulating gaze and joint attention have been encouraged through the means of very motivating items and activities. Knowledge of places has been built through travel training in school or out of the school. Concepts such as 'more' or 'less' have been modelled and reinforced through the use of symbols and signs in a variety of situations.



During our sessions, we have worked hard on a variety of skills. Student progress and well-being is at the centre of everything we do, and I know that I can speak for all staff, when I say that we are all immensely proud of our students.

Our leavers have achieved a very high number of points for their ASDAN certificate, so well done to everyone for their very high achievement!



We have an exciting curriculum planned for next year, which builds on the success of this year, which Ofsted have judged as Outstanding.

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Wellbeing Summer Update:

Thea Smith
Wellbeing Support Office



Student Council

This term our student council have been supporting our school on the journey to receiving the Rights Respecting school award, in our meetings we have been discussing the values of Wren Spinney and how they can reflect in us achieving the award. The school council have also been hard at work supporting the local community, they have visited a local care home and helped prepare the garden for summer. They were hard at work planting and watering the flowers and are now working towards organizing a coffee morning for the residents to come and visit Wren Spinney. This year the school council have said they wanted to help improve the playground equipment, so we are planning lots of fundraising events for next year. The school council have also supported in lots of school tours and been members of the interview panels and helped provide feedback on the candidates.



Well-being Tip...

Studies show that physical activity can improve your mental health and wellbeing. An extra 20 minutes of activity everyday can improve our sleep quality and reduce the risk of depression.

In Northamptonshire we have access to lots of wonderful country parks, a great way to keep yourself and children active. Please see the link below the Northamptonshire country parks list

<https://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/country-parks>

Christmas Fete 2024



On the 23rd of November Wren Spinney will be hosting our Christmas Fete, we will have stalls, a special visit from Santa Claus and lots more fun activities. More information will follow nearer the time, if you know anyone who would like a stall at our Fete please contact the school office to discuss further.



Well-being Update

As the summer holidays are approaching, we recognise that the holidays can be a challenging time for the families of our Wren Spinney students, below please find some useful websites that offer support and advice for families and some activities to do over the summer holidays.

The local offer is a central directory of everything available in Northamptonshire to support you and your family. If you scan the QR code below it will show you all the upcoming events:



Green patch is a local community garden in Kettering that runs lots of different sessions throughout the summer, please see the website below:

<http://greenpatch.org.uk/events>

The Northamptonshire children's trust has lots of resources for parents that offer support and advice over a vast range of subjects:

<https://nctrust.co.uk/support-for-children-and-families/parenting-support-and-resources/>

They NCT also provide lots of events over the holidays for you and your children to attend across Northamptonshire. Please see the calendar link below and you can choose which town you would like to visit and what events are on:

<https://nctrust.co.uk/support-for-children-and-families/childrens-centres/#childrens-centre-events>



Useful Summer Safeguarding Information

As school is closed for summer, I have some useful phone numbers that can be used in case support is needed.

- For emergencies or urgent concerns please contact the police on 101 or 999.
- MASH is there to support if you have any serious worries or concerns regarding your/a child, phone 0300 126 7000.
- SENDiass provides SEND information, advice and a support service, you can contact them by email at sendiass@northnorthyants.gov.uk or via the website <https://www.northnorthyants.gov.uk/schools-and-education/send-information-advice-support-service>
 - SENDiass not only provide advice but also runs multiple events across the year to help educate families on the support that can be provided and to help talk families through referrals, annual reviews and transitions.
- The NSPCC also provide support and a helpline <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/> and 0808 800 5000

Thank you and have a lovely summer.

Thea (Welfare Support Officer)

Autumn Term Dates

18 th October	Pumpkin competition
October- November	Black History month
TBC	Play day
<i>Half-term (Friday 18th October)</i>	
4 th November	Diwali
11 th November	Remembrance Day
15 th November	Children in Need
December	Brass band
	Christmas Nativity Assembly
	December Food Bank
	Hannukah
<i>Christmas Holidays (Friday 20th December)</i>	

Please see attached the Autumn term celebration and awareness days.

From the whole Wren Spinney community we wish you a lovely summer.

We will see you in September!